

In the Claims

1. (cancelled)
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7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)
9. (original) A device for differentiating between allergic rhinitis, upper respiratory tract viral infection and bacterial sinusitis, comprising a support upon which is fixed discrete indicators of pH, protein content, nitrite content, leukocyte esterase activity, and eosinophil content or TAME esterase or both, of a sample with which said fixed discrete indicators are contacted, wherein said support further comprises a means for collecting said nasal secretion while minimizing contact of said nasal secretion with personnel using said collection device.
10. (original) The device according to claim 9 configured as a reagent test strip or reagent pads integral to a nasal secretion collection device.

11. (original) The device according to claim 9 comprising an immobilized eosinophil specific protein or an indicator of TAME esterase activity.

12. (currently amended) The device according to claim 10 wherein said ~~reagent test strip~~ or reagent pads are compartmentalized from each other such that cross contamination between adjacent ~~reagents~~ reagent pads is minimized or eliminated completely.

13. (currently amended) The device according to claim 9 10 wherein said nasal secretion is collected in said collection device, and wherein contact of the nasal secretion with said reagent test strip or reagent pads is prevented by a removable barrier means such that the time of contact of said nasal secretion with said reagent test strip or reagent pads may be controlled.

14. (original) The device according to claim 9 wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of eosinophil major basic protein, eosinophil cationic protein, eosinophil derived neurotoxin, eosinophil peroxidase, and mixtures thereof.

15. (original) The device according to claim 14 wherein said protein is bound to a labeled or unlabeled avidin, biotin, or antibody.

16. (original) The device according to claim 14 comprising an immobilized antibody specific to an eosinophil specific antigen.

17. (original) The device according to claim 16 wherein said antibody is specific to a protein selected from the group consisting of eosinophil major basic protein, eosinophil cationic protein, eosinophil derived neurotoxin, eosinophil peroxidase, and mixtures thereof.

18. (original) The device according to claim 17 comprising an immobilized substrate which upon contact with an eosinophil specific enzyme or one or more enzymes found in secretions of patients with allergic rhinitis is converted to a detectable reaction product.

19. (original) The device according to claim 18 wherein said enzymes found in secretions of patients with allergic rhinitis reacts with TAME, tosyl-Arg-paranitrophenyl ester, or paranitroaniline, Z-Arg-paranitroaniline, B-Z-Arg-paranitroaniline.

20. (original) The device according to claim 19 wherein said substrate is a chromogenic substrate.

21. (cancelled)

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32. (new) A device for detecting bacterial sinusitis, comprising a support upon which is fixed discrete indicators of pH, protein content, nitrite content, and leukocyte esterase activity of a sample with which said fixed discrete indicators are contacted, wherein a pH between 7.5 and 9, and a moderately strong presence of protein, nitrite or leukocyte esterase activity is indicative of bacterial sinusitis; and wherein said support further comprises a means for collecting said nasal secretion while minimizing contact of said nasal secretion with personnel using said collection device.